

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:73

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

HIV AIDS AMONG CHILDREN

Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh;Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey on the number of children including orphans, suffering from HIV/AIDS;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the survey conducted in this regard, State-wise;
- (c) whether the National AIDS Control Board proposes to set up care centres/orphanages solely meant for such children;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the expenses to be borne by the Government;
- (f) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding discrimination against such children in schools; and
- (g) if so, the action taken by Government to address these complaints?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 73 FOR 22ND OCTOBER, 2008

No nation-wide survey has been conducted to estimate the number of children / orphans infected with HIV. Programme data available under the National Anti-retroviral Programme, 42,106 HIV+ children have been identified and among them eligible children put on Anti-retroviral Treatment. State wise list is annexed.

While the policy under the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-III is to encourage adoption of infected / affected children due to HIV/AIDS, keeping in view the possibility of none being available to take care of such children, setting up of 10 Community Care Centres has been approved for taking up during the current financial year. A Community Care Centre for children is envisaged for 50 children. For each such centre, financial assistance is in the form of non-recurring assistance of Rs.4 lakh for renovation and refurbishment, fixed assets and equipment and recurring expenditure for food, medicines, salary of personnel and operational expenses @ Rs.17.5 lakh per annum.

There have been some complaints regarding discrimination of HIV+ children in schools and suitable action has been taken at the local level. Advocacy is being done through media and training to ensure no stigma and discrimination against HIV+ patients including children.